## **Celebrating 30 Years of Partnership**

For the last 30 years, the Iowa Financial Incentive Program along with technical assistance from the Iowa Natural Resources Conservation Service has helped Iowa landowners make remarkable improvements to the state's natural resources.

Since 1973, the state has provided nearly \$180 million in cost share funding to farmers who install terraces, windbreaks, water and sediment basins, waterways and other conservation practices. More than 40,000 acres a year are treated with help from these funds and the conservation planning assistance provided by the Natural Resources Conservation Services offices throughout the state.

"This technical assistance has helped increase the impact of state cost share funds on Iowa's natural resources," said Leroy Brown, state conservationist with the Iowa NRCS. "State dollars have been stretched to reach as many producers and landowners as possible—getting more conservation on the ground, saving soil and protecting water quality."

The continuation of this partnership will be key to another 30 years of good conservation work, according to Brown. "Cooperation between partners helps get overall costs down, making more cost-share funds available to more producers," he said.

Iowa NRCS provides leadership in a partnership effort to help people conserve, maintain, and improve our natural resources and environment. NRCS provides conservation planning assistance to landowners through 100 offices across the state.

Natural Resources Conservation Service Contact: Laura Greiner 11/7/03